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you get the BEST AND MOST RE-
TURN from THE "FARMER."

VOL. 45.—NO. 35

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10, 1909.

WEATHER FORECAST
Clearing and colder tonight;
fair and colder Thursday.

PRICE ONE CENT.

PASS PUBLIC UTILITIES BILL OR FACE REBUKE BY VOTERS

JUDSON URGES CREATION OF LEGISLATIVE
ROD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS.

Attacks Capitalization of Connecticut Railway & Light-
ing Company, Which Paige Defends—Local Sena-
tors and Representatives Not Prepared to Talk Upon
Proposed Legislation to Business Men.

The Utilities Bill was discussed be-
fore the Bridgeport Business Men's As-
sociation, last night, by State's At-
torney Stiles Judson, Jr., and by former
Senator Allan W. Paige. The discus-
sion flared a long way from the merits
and particularities of the bill, and de-
veloped into what a number of those
present believed to be an indictment
of Paige as a chief actor in the stock
watering orgies which have marked the
course of Connecticut legislation in re-
cent years.

At any rate, the latter spoke at some
length, and ably, in defense of the
methods by which the Connecticut
Railway and Lighting Company has be-
come one of the great wealth
creators out of wind and water.

The sensational incidents of the eve-
ning were the relation by Mr. Judson
of the conditions under which the Public
Utilities committee came into ex-
istence, as the senators' wonder of the
measures used upon Republican lead-
ers by Governor Woodruff and his
statement that the defeat of the utility
bill, by the Senate, might properly
cause the voters to rebuke the Re-
publican party at the polls.

Again he told the now frequently
told tale of the memorable 23 senators,
who on one day voted for a bill giving
the railroad commissioners power to
investigate the actual value of railroad
and railway properties in this state,
and on the following day promptly
marched down the hill they had march-
ed up.

As Mr. Judson had said that only
a few legislators are venal, he was left
to be inferred that the senators were
influenced by the items of a "you tickle
me and I'll tickle you program," which
he had pictured as potent in getting
results for the public service corpora-
tions.

Paige sat within two or three rows
of Judson, and listened attentively as
the latter urged that the senators' vote
should be done to secure the pass-
age of the utilities bill.

Knowledge of the bill was not much
increased, for Mr. Judson's remarks
were confined to the committee, and the
whole it is a good bill. Two senators
and two representatives were present,
only Senator Holzer being absent, but
these either said they were not com-
ing to learn, or else that they were
officially so placed as to make a discus-
sion of the pending measures exceed-
ingly improper.

Mr. Judson brought out the un-
written history of the commission that
drafted the bill. He said that the lead-
ers of the legislature were not much
inclined at the last session of the
General Assembly, to draft, or put up
on its passage a public utilities bill. It
was not until after the election that he
reminded them before him, and said that
if they did not take action, he would
call a special session of the General
Assembly, for the purpose of legisla-
ting to regulate public service cor-
porations alone.

And then, as Mr. Judson told the
story, the leaders were afraid to trust
their appointment to the committee to
the governor, and named the men who
were to compose it, the present mem-
bers.

Not much, said the speaker was ex-
pected of these gentlemen, but they
had risen above the influences and the
limitations that were supposed to sur-
round them and had drafted a really
excellent bill, a bill that ought to be
passed.

Then Mr. Judson laid significant
stress upon the thought that Governor
Lilley can be depended upon to ap-
point the right men. Indeed, it ap-
peared, so much emphasis did he give
to this proposition, as if he expected
that the men who Lilley is to ap-
point, if he has the opportunity,
will atone for any defects in the bill.

That there were such defects he ad-
mitted, noting especially the claim
that one kind of regulation and this
very effective, for gas, water and elec-
tric light companies, is provided; and
that for railroad and railway com-
panies another kind of regulation is
provided. He thought that it would
be better to take the bill with this ap-
parent discrimination in it, than to
pass nothing at all.

Mr. Judson gave much emphasis to
the difficulty under which the legisla-
ture labors in dealing with special
legislation. He believed that the in-
terests of the public would be much
better served if the intricate affairs of
the public service corporations in
their complex relations with the state
could be considered by a body of men
designed for the purpose, who would
have the advantage of a cumulative
experience.

Mr. Judson did object to the clause
of the bill which gives an appeal to
the courts from every order of the
commission. He thought the right of
appeal should be confined to a review
from the legality of the order. He re-
lated the struggle that Governor
Hughes had with the New York legisla-
ture to restrict the right of ap-
peal in its utilities bill, which became
a law, to the question of legality.

Mr. Paige talked for something like
half an hour. His remarks were large-
ly upon two points. He did not agree
with Mr. Judson that the sessions of
the General Assembly are prolonged
by the discussion of special bills, or
private bills, as he called them.

He suggested that much time was
consumed by the period allowed for the
introduction of new business, which
he believed should be shortened. The
state was small and the members of
the assembly, having free transpor-
tation, returned to their homes every
night, coming late in the afternoon,
returning early in the morning. He
believed that if the sittings of the As-
sembly could be held as many days in
the week as is the custom in New
York and Massachusetts, that this
state would make as favorable a show-
ing, in point of time occupied, as those
states.

His defense of the financial methods
of the Connecticut Railway & Light-
ing Company, was an ingenious state-
ment of the usual arguments. He told
the story of the absorption of a num-
ber of small companies at a high price,
as the basis for a capitalization which
rose in a few months from \$5,000,000
to \$24,000,000.

Mr. Paige denied that anybody had
suffered by the financing of the Con-
necticut Company. He alleged that no
investors have suffered, and in fact
that the bonds of the Philadelphia or-

DASHING SOLDIER, DOUBLE DESERTER, UNDER ARREST

Pretty Widow Brown Be-
came Bride, With Pride,
of Frank McBride.

Soldier Cashes Mother-in-
Law's Check and Disap-
pears With Proceeds—
Also Runs Away from
Marine Corps—Deserted
Wife Will Press Charge.

Information has reached the police
of this city that Corporal Frank Mc-
Bride is now under arrest at the
Brooklyn Navy Yard, charged with de-
sertion from the Marine Corps. Mc-
Bride is wanted in this city for for-
sweary. He came to this city last Oc-
tober on a furlough, and in the West
End got acquainted with Mrs. Julia
Brown, a pretty little widow, who
made a comfortable living by conduct-
ing a little ice cream parlor and to-
bacco store at 321 Hancock avenue.

McBride was a handsome young fel-
low and a favorite with the girls. He
wooed the widow with an impetuosity
that she was unable to withstand, and
the couple were married on election
day. He busied himself about the lit-
tle store for a week. The bride was
supremely happy.

With Mrs. McBride lived her mother,
Mrs. Mary Hubby. A week after the
wedding Mrs. Hubby received a check
for \$228. It had been customary for
Mrs. Brown, before her marriage, to
take the checks her mother received
to Joseph Nebenzahl, who owned the
store, and paying the rent receive the
balance in cash. Mrs. Hubby gave
the check to McBride to deliver to
Nebenzahl, who was to call later and
turn the balance due Mrs. Hubby over
to her, after he had cashed the check.

McBride represented that he was the
son of Mrs. Hubby and asked Nebenzahl
to give him one of his own checks
for the balance due Mrs. Hubby. This
was done and McBride attempted to
take the check to Nebenzahl, but he
failed, and returning to Nebenzahl in-
duced him to accompany him to the
bank and cash the check. This McBride
received \$272.

He disappeared and has not been
heard from until his arrest on the
Bowers last week, by the United States
officers. His arrest was reported to the police here
after his trial for desertion.

His wife went to Brooklyn, Monday,
and had a conference with McBride,
who implored her to spare him and
not to press the charge. He told her
that he was ashamed of himself and
that he could not pick up the neces-
sary courage to write to her, but that
he had written after his arrest. Mrs.
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TAFT AND SHERMAN DECLARED ELECTED

Electoral Vote of States for President and
Vice President Formally Counted.

Joint Session of Senate and House Com-
pletes the Election Today—Taft Gets
321 Votes and Bryan 162—An Elab-
orate Ceremony.

(Special from United Press.)
Washington, Feb. 10.—With impres-
sive ceremony, the closing scene of the
Presidential election was enacted to-
day in the hall of the House of Rep-
resentatives.

In joint session the members of the
Senate and of the House of Represen-
tatives of the national Congress met
and counted the electoral votes for
President and Vice President and de-
clared the election of Wm. Howard
Taft, of Ohio, and James Schoolcraft
Sherman, of New York.

After tellers appointed by both
houses, and representing both political
parties, had carefully scrutinized the
returns from the several States, Vice
President Charles W. Fairbanks an-
nounced that out of the 483 votes in
the electoral college 321 had been cast
for Taft for President; 162 for William J.
Bryan for President; and 162 for John
W. Kern for Vice President.

Incidentally the fact was recalled
that it was the largest vote ever cast
for candidates for President in the his-
tory of the United States, the recent
election of Oklahoma having added
seven votes to the electoral college
since this ceremony was performed
four years ago.

The joint session began at 1 o'clock
in the presence of a notable assem-
blage. Admission to the galleries was
only obtained by card and these points
of observation were crowded with the
wives and friends of members. Mrs.
Taft and Mrs. Sherman, with a large
party of friends, including Mrs. Roose-
velt and Mrs. Fairbanks and members
of their families, were interested spec-
tators, and the diplomatic gallery was
well filled with the representatives of
foreign governments eagerly watching
the process of the election of a Presi-
dent in the greatest Republic on
earth.

After about an hour Wyoming's
name, the last on the list, was reached
and the President of the United States
was declared elected. The Vice Presi-
dent, the Vice President rapped for
order. At his request Senator Bur-
rows counted the tally sheet and an-
nounced that the record showed that
the whole number of electoral votes
cast had been 483; that of these 242
constituted a majority; that William
Howard Taft and James S. Sherman
had each received 162 votes, and
John W. Kern had received 162.

The Vice President then repeated
the statement of fact, declaring that
it would be deemed sufficient notice
of the election of Taft and Sher-
man, and directing that the result be
spread upon the journals of both House
and Senate. This terminated the
ceremony.

President F. W. Bolande of the
Bridgeport Business Men's association
conferred this morning with Norman
F. Allen of Hartford, chairman of the
legislative committee of the state as-
sociation, regarding some important
points that were brought up in the dis-
cussion of the public utilities bill at
the meeting of the association last night.

None of the senators and representa-
tives present seemed to know where
the bill reported to the judiciary com-
mittee by the temporary commission,
and recommended with a few changes
by the legislative committee of the
state association, had actually been introduced in the legis-
lature, or not. Only two days
remained for the introduction of new
legislation, and it was thought some ac-
tion should be quickly taken.

Mr. Allen said he had just come
from the capital and the point in question
was the navy yard. The committee
of the judiciary committee was of the
opinion that the report as turned over
to his committee carried with it the
process of introduction of a bill or
resolution. On the other hand the at-
torney general, who was seen, did not
have that idea. Therefore it has been
arranged that to-morrow morning
there be a meeting of the committee
of the judiciary committee, and the
report, Senator Fenn, a member of the
Business Men's committee, will offer
the resolution.

Mr. Allen also stated that an early
hearing would be asked of the judiciary
committee and that each association
would be notified of the date so that
the city was struck. A terrific wind
from every town. He said he expected
to have fully 200 business men present
at the hearing.

At Mare Island, California, addition-
al appropriations of \$100,000 to im-
prove the harbor for the navy yard
and \$227,000 increase is also recom-
mended for the Puget Sound Navy
Yard.

The bill creates the office of vice-
admiral on the retired list, intended for
the benefit of Rear Admiral Evans. A
provision is inserted for the Secretary
of the Navy to investigate as to ac-
quiring all or part of the Jamestown
Exposition land for a naval training
station. Three sub-surface boats are
provided for.

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CIRCUS OWNERS APPEAL FROM ASSESSORS

Want Valuation of Personal
Property Abated.

Ringling Bros., Successors
to Barnum & Bailey, Claim
Chattels Are Taxable in
Bariboo, Wis.

Ringling Bros., proprietors of the
Barnum & Bailey circus, which win-
ters in this city has filed an appeal
with the Board of Relief against as-
sessing their property in this city at
\$75,000. The showmen base their con-
tention that the assessment is upon
personal property, which they claim
is not taxable in this state, as their
headquarters are in Bariboo, Wis.,
where they are incorporated. They
also state that their stay is only for
a few months in this city, every year,
and that the taxes upon the buildings
and land which they occupy are paid
by the Barnum estate who are the les-
sors.

The board of relief has decided that
the question involves a legal point
which they do not desire to pass upon
and they will submit the question to
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LIBRARY BOARD WOULD BE SELF PERPETUATING

PRIVILEGE OF EMINENT DOMAIN ALSO DE-
MANDED IN AMENDMENTS TO BE SUBMIT-
TED TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

General Henry A. Bishop Makes Provisions of Proposed
Bills Public Saying Directors Have Nothing to Con-
ceal—Term to Be Three Years.

Tomorrow at a meeting of the Leg-
islature at Hartford a bill will be in-
troduced amending the general public
library act of April 13, 1881, which will
provide that the directors of the
Bridgeport Public library elect their
members subject to the approval
of the Common Council, instead of
their being appointed by the Mayor
as at present. Also another bill will
be offered restoring the condemnation
privilege which, through a misunder-
standing in the legislative committee,
was left off two years ago. This
measure allows the library directors to
condemn property, hold hearings, etc.,
in case of the purchase of a library
site, in accordance with the general
acts. It is a protective measure sim-
ply.

Mayor Lee, who is the one most af-
fected by the proposed bill of the li-
brary directors, is heartily in favor of
it. While it takes away his power of
appointment, it provides for the man-
agement of the library under the
most favorable conditions.

The chief reason for this act is the
fact that the directors serve in a dual
capacity. Not only are they directors
of the institution, but they are also

trustees and as such immediately re-
sponsible for the safety and proper
management of the property. Mrs.
Pettingill left the property to the di-
rectors of the public library as trust-
tees for the city. In this capacity they
are required to be most careful and
circumspect as apart from the ordi-
nary powers and status conferred upon
them as directors.

No change whatever is made in the
number of directors to be appointed or
to the length of term of three years.
The only change is in providing for
the appointment of successors to re-
tiring members by the board of directors
instead of by the Mayor. Undoubtedly
the measure will be favored by the
Legislature as being in every way pro-
fitable and desirable for the library
and the city. The library does not
come under the jurisdiction of the city
but is operated under the general leg-
islative act named above.

Gen. Henry A. Bishop, president of
the board of directors, when asked
about the matter today, said the bill would
undoubtedly be presented tomorrow.
He said the provisions were perfect-
ly simple and plain and would, he be-
lieved, be put in place without any
concern, that the directors had nothing
to conceal and desired the public to
fully understand the nature and
purpose of the bill.

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